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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 26 July 1950

SUBJECT German Border Police
in Mecklenburg and Brandenburg

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1. A VP headquarters with two 80-man Bereitschaften was stationed in Lehna (L 54/T 18) in early April 1950. The Bereitschaften, whose personnel came from Saxony, were equipped with carbines, pistols and some light machine guns. One was commanded by an Oberkommissar, the other by a Kommissar.*
2. a. It was learned in early April 1950 that the strength of the Soviet border guard detachments in Thurow (L 54/U 64), Utecht, Schlagbruegge and Deckow had been reduced about 50 percent during the last six months. An employee of the Grevesmuhlen (L 54/T 29) county housing office said that the detachments would allegedly leave that area and their quarters would be taken over by the German border police.
- b. The German Grenzpolizei-kommando West controls Grenzpolizei-kommandanturen in Rorrlburg (L 54/S 98), Zarentin (L 54/T 15), Gadebusch (L 54/T 27) and Loizenburg (L 54/S 93). The Gadebusch Grenzpolizei-kommandantur had been located in Rorrendorf (L 54/T 17) until a short time ago.**
3. The following German Grenzpolizei-kommandos, each with about 30 police, were identified in western Brandenburg between 3 and 6 April 1950:

Unbesandten (L 54/T 40)
Kietz (L 54/T 40)
Medlich (L 54/T 40)

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Gandow (M 54/T 50)
 Austrow (M 54/T 50)
 Lenzen (M 54/T 40): Kommandantur at 1
 Jahnstrasse, commanded by VP Ratenschel, whose
 deputy was VP Kommissar Geyer.***

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* [] Comment: by Bereitschaften, [] presumably
 referred to Grenzpolizei-Kommandanturen. This assump-
 tion is corroborated by the statement that the units
 numbered 80 police each, which is the average
 strength of a Grenzpolizei-Kommandantur.

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** [] Comment: The Grenzpolizei-Kommandanturen are
 known from previous reports.

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*** [] Comment: The Grenzpolizei-Kommandos are known
 from previous reports.

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